

EXEGESIS

Transcending Boundaries

Fiction by South Asian–Australian authors published in Australia

Part I of Thesis

Doctorate of Creative Arts Thesis

SHARON RUNDLE

Doctoral Candidate

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

University of Technology, Sydney

Supervisor, Dr Devleena Ghosh

Co-Supervisor, Dr Debra Adelaide

May, 2017

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGINAL AUTHORSHIP

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged within the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

Signature of Student:

Date: 12th September, 2016

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Abstract

Where is contemporary fiction by South Asian–Australian authors situated in the Australian fiction publishing industry? The exegesis or critical component of my thesis examines the local cultural production of novels in Australia from 1990, in order to separate facts from fiction. This thesis builds on a foundation of rigorously checked and accurate data from previous studies – the Australian Bureau of Statistic and the AustLit database into the Australian Book Publishing industry – from 1990 until 2004. It presents new data from 2004 until 2014, as well as an examination of the development of the cultural production of novels by South Asian–Australian authors published in Australia from 1990.

The theoretical framework of Ashcroft’s Transnational literature and his concept of Transnation provides a contemporary lens through which to view the development of novels by South Asian–Australian authors.

Ashcroft’s theoretical framework of Transnation is used to underpin the creative component of my thesis. *Change and Changeability* comprises eighteen short stories that explore the lives of characters with deep roots and loyalty to their local landscape and country (vertical axis of Transnation), and those who are restless and constantly on the move (horizontal axis of Transnation). Structured in three sections, the interlinking narratives explore the effects of changes in society and attitudes on each of three women protagonists. These stories demonstrate the tension between the vertical and horizontal axes of Ashcroft’s Transnation theory.

Transcending Boundaries
Change and Changeability

Part II of Thesis

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Sharon Rundle

Doctoral Candidate

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

University of Technology, Sydney

Supervisor, Dr Devleena Ghosh

Co-supervisor, Dr Debra Adelaide

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Transcending Boundaries Part 2

Change and Changeability

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